

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03007 261035Z

ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9117

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S E C R E T LUSAKA 3007

EXDIS TREAT AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US ZA XF

SUBJ: PRESIDENT KAUNDA READY TO RECEIVE ISRAELI EMISSARY

REF: STATE 205987

1. FOLLOWING JOINT MEETING WITH BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER AUGUST 26 ON NAMIBIA, KAUNDA'S PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR CHONA ASKED TO SEE CHARGE ALONE TO DISCUSS THE ARRIVAL OF AN ISRAELI EMISSARY TO SEE PRESIDENT KAUNDA. HE SAID THAT COINCIDENTAL WITH THE RECEIPT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER (REFTEL), PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY A PROMINENT LOCAL JEWISH BUSINESSMAN, ABE GALOUN. GALOUN HAD PRESSED HARD FOR THE PRESIDENT TO RECEIVE AN ISRAELI EMISSARY TO EXPLAIN ISRAEL'S POSITION ON A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. KAUNDA'S RELUCTANCE TO DO SO HAD BEEN OVERCOME BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER SOLICITING HIS SUPPORT. HE SAW RECEIVING THE EMISSARY AS A POTENTIAL WAY FOR HIM TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE.

2. CHONA ASKED FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN ENSURING THAT WHOEVER THE EMISSARY WAS THAT HE BE OF A SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEVEL SO THAT HE COULD SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY. PRESIDENT KAUNDA WOULD NOT BE INTERESTED IN A LITANY OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE ARABS. HE WOULD WANT TO RECEIVE
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FROM THE EMISSARY CONCRETE INFORMATION ON WHAT ISRAEL SEES AS TERMS FOR A SETTLEMENT. PRESIDENT HAD SEEN ARAFAT AND HAD GOTTEN HIS VIEWS WHICH SEEMED REASONABLE. NOW HE WOULD LIKE THE ISRAELI SIDE.

3. CHONA SAID THE EMISSARY WOULD ARRIVE IN LUSAKA EVENING OF AUGUST 27 AND WOULD PROBABLY SEE THE PRESIDENT ON THE

29TH.

4. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO SHARE THE ABOVE WITH THE
ISRAELI GOVERNMENT.
CLINGERMAN

SECRET

NNN

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